

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 200972

ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 TRSE-00 IO-13 NASA-01

ERDA-05 NRC-05 /100 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/CE:ELAUDERDALE:BJR

APPROVED BY EUR/CE:WMWOESSNER

EUR/CE:RCBARKLEY

EUR/CE:SMKLINGAMAN

EUR/SOV:KBROWN

L/EUR:DGANTZ (SUBS)

EUR:RDVINE

-----028337 240631Z /21

P R 232302Z AUG 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMCONSUL STUTTGART

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 200972

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: TSPA, GW, CG

SUBJECT: SOVIET CONCERN RE OTRAG

REF: (A) STUTTGART 1411 NOTAL (B) STUTTGART 1357 NOTAL

(C) LUBUMBASHI A-9 NOTAL

1. DURING AUGUST 22 MEETING WITH ACTING SECRETARY
CHRISTOPHER AMBASSADOR DOBRYNIN PRESENTED A COPY OF SOVIET
DEMARCHE TO THE FRG EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER THE ROCKET
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PAGE 02 STATE 200972

TESTING FACILITY OPERATED BY OTRAG (ORBITAL TRANSPORT AND
RAKETEN AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT) IN SHABA PROVINCE. A COPY
OF DEMARCHE WAS PRESENTED UNDER COVER OF A NON-PAPER
ADDRESSED TO THE USG. TEXT OF BOTH ARE QUOTED BELOW:

2. BEGIN TEXT OF NON-PAPER - THE SOVIET SIDE WOULD LIKE
TO BRING TO YOUR ATTENTION THE TEXT OF OUR ADDRESS TO THE

GOVERNMENT OF THE FRG CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A WEST GERMAN MISSILE TEST SITE IN ZAIRE.

JUDGING BY THE AVAILABLE INFORMATION THE POSSIBILITY CANNOT BE EXCLUDED OF AN ATTEMPT ON THE PART OF THE FRG TO CREATE BEYOND ITS BORDERS, IN CIRCUMVENTION OF INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS IN FORCE, A BASE FOR THE PRODUCTION AND PERFECTION OF MISSILE WEAPONS AND TO ESTABLISH LAUNCHING GROUNDS FOR COMBAT MISSILES. THE CONSEQUENCES OF SUCH DEVELOPMENTS FROM THE VIEWPOINT OF THE INTERESTS OF EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY WOULD BE OBVIOUS. THEREFORE WE CONSIDER IT NECESSARY FROM THE VERY BEGINNING TO GET CLARIFICATION REGARDING THE PURPOSES OF ESTABLISHING A TEST SITE OF THE FRG IN ZAIRE AND OF THE NATURE OF ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT THERE, AND, IF NECESSARY, TO TAKE APPROPRIATE MEASURES TO PREVENT THE VIOLATION BY THE FRG OF THE INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS IN FORCE.

SUCH APPROACH IS BASED ON QUADRIPARTITE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES SHARED BY OUR STATES UNDER THE KNOWN INTERNATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS. WE COUNT ON THE US SIDE TO ACT IN A SIMILAR DIRECTION.

BEGIN TEXT OF RUSSIAN DEMARCHE TO FRG - REPORTS HAVE COME TO THE ATTENTION OF MOSCOW CONCERNING THE ESTABLISH-
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MENT IN ZAIRE OF A WEST GERMAN MISSILE TEST SITE ON WHICH TESTING BEGAN OF MISSILES BEING DEVELOPPED BY THE "OTRAG" COMPANY.

ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, THOSE ARE THE MISSILES WHICH ARE CAPABLE OF LIFTING A CONSIDERABLE WEIGHT TO ROUND-THE-EARTH ORBIT AND WHICH CAN BE USED FOR MILITARY PURPOSES. THE ACTIVITIES ON THE TEST SITE ARE COVERED WITH THE VEIL OF SECRECY WHICH IS OBVIOUSLY INCONSISTENT WITH THE STATEMENTS OF THE "OTRAG" TO THE EFFECT THAT THE SAID MISSILES ARE INTENDED FOR "MERELY CIVIL PURPOSES".
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THE SOVIET SIDE WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FRG OFFICIAL INFORMATION AS TO THE PURPOSES OF ESTABLISHING A MISSILE TEST SITE IN ZAIRE AND THE NATURE OF WORK CARRIED OUT THERE. IN DOING SO THE SOVIET SIDE PROCEEDS FROM ITS RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THE KNOWN INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS.

OUR ADDRESS IS DICTATED BY THE CONCERN THAT NO NEW STEPS BE TAKEN WHICH COULD GIVE AN ADDITIONAL IMPETUS TO THE

NUCLEAR-MISSILE ARMS RACE AND INVOLVE IN IT NEW COUNTRIES
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THIS APPROACH. END TEXT

3. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO GO TO THE FRG AND ASK THEM
FOR INFORMATION REGARDING OTRAG. DEPARTMENT IS
ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN VERIFICATION THAT INFORMATION
PROVIDED IN REFS IS CORRECT AND THAT THERE IS NO FRG
FUNDING VF OTRAG.

4. FYI - DEPARTMENT IS CHECKING BOTH FACTUAL ASPFCTS
AS WELL AS LEGAL ASPECTS REFERRED TO IN BOTH PAPERS.
DEPARTMENT WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE EMBASSY COMMENT ON THE
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PAGE 04 STATE 200972

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PAGE 01 STATE 200972
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY:EUR/CE:ELAUDERDALE:BJR
APPROVED BY:EUR/CE:WMWOESSNER
EUR/CE:RCBARKLEY
EUR/SOV:
EUR:RDVINE
EUR/CE:SMKLINGAMAN
L/EUR:DGANTZ (SUBS)

-----046659 250716Z /17

P R 232302Z AUG 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMCONSUL STUTTGART
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 200972

EXDIS

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SUCH APPROACH IS BASED ON QUADRIPARTITE RIGHTS AND
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SUBJECT TELEGRAM REISSUED WITH EXDIS CAPTION PER STATE 201775

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PAGE 01 STATE 200972
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

66011
DRAFTED BY EUR/CE:ELAUDERDALE:BJR
APPROVED BY EUR/CE:WMWOESSNER
S/S:HWEINLAND
EUR:JKAUFMANN
-----078140 262140Z /61

P 261825Z AUG 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
USMISSION USBERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 200972

EXDIS

FOL RPT STATE 200972 SENT ACTION BONN INFO BERLIN, STUTTGART,
KINSHASA & MOSCOW DTD 23 AUG 77

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 200972

EXDIS

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LATTER. END FYI CHRISTOPHER
SUBJECT TELEGRAM REISSUED WITH EXDIS CAPTION PER STATE 20177
UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DEMARCHE, ROCKETS, TEST FACILITIES, MEETING REPORTS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, MISSILE SITES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE200972
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: ELAUDERDALE:BJR
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770307-0829
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770831/aaaabafl.tel
Line Count: 414
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 83bcde55-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 8
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 77 STUTTGART 1411, 77 STUTTGART 1357, 77 LUBUMBASHI A-9
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1511267
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIET CONCERN RE OTRAG
TAGS: TSPA, GE, CG, US, UR, OTRAG
To: BONN
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/83bcde55-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009